

DARBY & DARBY 805 Third Avenue New York, NY 10022

<u>MEMORANDUM</u>

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TO:

File 7755/0D276

OFFICE OF PETITIONS

FROM:

Bert J. Lewen

DATE:

February 25, 2000

RE:

USSN 08/999,752

On Thursday, February 24, 2000, I interviewed the subject application with Supervisory Examiner Thurman Page. The Examiner in charge of the case is on a six month leave of absence.

Exr. Page indicated that the application would be allowable over the Purewal et al. reference, if we simply recited that the composition was "free of surfactant" (that is, by deleting the word "substantially").

On the other hand, Exr. Page said that he would be withdrawing this Final Rejection since, from his review of the application, he did not believe that the search performed was adequately thorough. He said he would be advising me on Tuesday whether he has ascertained that there is further relevant prior art.

In any event, his withdrawal of the Final Rejection will eliminate the need for us to respond to the Office Action of December 2, 1999.

BJL:eah

Cc: Mr. R. F. Browne

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